

DOCKET NO: 245673US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

HIROYUKI SAKUYAMA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: DAND, D.

SERIAL NO: 10/717,674 :

FILED: NOVEMBER 21, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 2624

FOR: CODING AND DECODING OF
IMAGE DATA WITH ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION :

PROVISIONAL ELECTION OF SPECIES

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Restriction dated July 2, 2007 Applicants provisionally elect with
traverse Species I, corresponding to Figure 9 and Claims 2 and 19.

Applicants traverse the outstanding requirement as the outstanding requirement has
not established that a serious burden would be required if the requirement was not issued and
if all the claims in the application were examined together. More particularly, MPEP §803
states:

If the search and examination of all the claims in an application
can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine
them on the merits, even though they include claims to
independent or distinct inventions.

The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.
Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on
the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious*
burden on the Examiner.

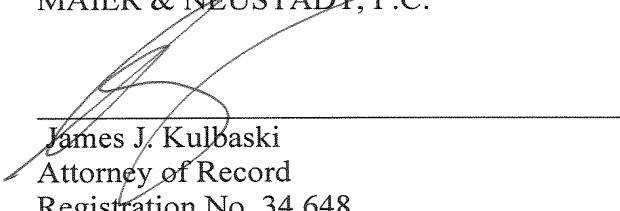
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Reply to Office Action of July 2, 2007

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the requirement to elect a single species be withdrawn, and that a full examination on the merits of Claims 1-34 be conducted.

Should the Examiner deem that a personal or telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing this application toward allowance, he or she is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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